

TO: See Distribution Below

FROM: Eric A. Taussig


SUBJECT: Victor DeNoble and Paul Mele

DATE: September 18, 1986

This morning at approximately 8:30 a.m., I received a telephone call from Victor DeNoble who called to purportedly reassure me that an article to be published in the November issue of Neuroscience is not based upon work done at Philip Morris. The article deals with Mecamylamine.

Dr. DeNoble advised me that prior published research which the Company objected to was independently replicated and that neither he nor Dr. Mele felt that they violated their agreements. I told Dr. DeNoble that I could not comment upon his forthcoming paper on Mecamylamine but that insofar as prior published research was concerned, the Company considered it to constitute a breach of the agreements which he and Dr. Mele signed. I stated that the genesis of the research came from Philip Morris and the fact that it was independently replicated made no difference. He was told that the basic problem which the Company had was that in one instance after requesting permission and having it denied, they went ahead and published research and on another occasion they published research without even seeking permission, again violating the agreements. I gave him no representation regarding the action the Company might take with reference to the yet to be published Neuroscience article if we considered it to breach the agreement. Dr. DeNoble stated that neither he nor Paul Mele had any intention of hurting Philip Morris and that neither of them were currently involved in nicotine research.

At 11:00 a.m. Dr. DeNoble called again; this time to inform me that the article would not be published in the November issue of Neuroscience and that the only thing which might appear would be an abstract. I indicated that I would transmit the content of our telephone calls to appropriate members of management.



EAT/pjk

Dist: B.J. Case
J.L. Charles
E.J.T. Flanagan
A. Holtzman
K.S. Houghton
F.J. Laux
- - -

2043724